

FIREWALL POOLING IN A NETWORK FLOWSWITCH

Srinivas Chaganty
Makarand Kale
Satish Bommareddy

5

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

2/8
4/7/06

~~Co-pending~~ *Continuation of* application Serial No. 08/994,709, now US patent number 6,266,335, entitled "Cross-Platform Server Clustering Using A Network Flow Switch," discloses and claims flow switch features used in the system of this invention. Patent No. 5,963,540 entitled "Router Pooling in a Network Flow Switch," discloses and claims router fault-tolerance and router load-balancing features used in the system of this invention. *Continuation of* ~~Co-pending~~ application Serial No. *2/8* *4/7/06* 08/992,038, now US patent number 6,601,084, entitled "Dynamic Load Balancer for Multiple Network Servers" discloses and claims load-balancing used in the system of this invention. Co-pending application Serial No. 09/540,296 entitled "Router Clustering for Multiple Network Servers" discloses and claims pooling used in the system of this invention. Co-pending application Serial No. 09/540,297 entitled "Firewall Clustering for Multiple Network Servers." All cited applications and the patent are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

20

CROSS REFERENCE TO APPENDIX

This patent application includes microfiche Appendix A which is a part of the present disclosure and which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety. This Appendix consists of a total of 34 sheets that contain a total of 3,271 frames. Appendix A is a listing of software code of embodiments of the present invention, which are described more completely below.

Background

The growth of networking and the popularity of the Internet have created a need to improve the performance and reliability of network architectures. For example, FIG. 1 shoes a block diagram of a local network 100 according to a conventional network architecture. Network 100 is connected to a network